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Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 179574
ORIGIN EB-08

INFO OCT-01 CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00 NSAE-00 ICA-11
TRSE-00 EUR-12 DOE-15 ISO-00 SOE-02 /049 R

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APPROVED BY EB/ITP/EWT:WAROOT
EUR/WE:EBEIGEL (INFO)
----------050534 160007Z /73
R 152324Z JUL 78
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY PARIS
INFO AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 179574

EXCON, USOECD

E.O. 11652: XGDS-1

TAGS: ESTC, COCOM

SUBJECT: NOMINATION OF NEW COCOM CHAIRMAN

REF: (A) PARIS 22248; (B) STATE 176735

1. BEFORE MAKING COMMITMENT TO SUPPORT REITANO NOMINATION AS COCOM CHAIRMAN, DEPARTMENT WISHES TO KNOW (A) RESULTS OF ANY USDEL CONSULTATIONS WITH OTHER DEL'S ON PROLONGING INDELICATO ASSIGNMENT THROUGH THE LIST REVIEW AND EMBASSY ROME'S POSSIBLE SIMILAR DEMARCHE TO REQUEST ITALIANS EXTEND INDELICATO ASSIGNMENT (REF B WHICH APPARENTLY CROSSED REF A) AND (B) BELGIAN VIEWS ON CHAIRMAN SUCCESSOR QUESTION.

2. IF DISCUSSIONS PER REF B NOT YET HELD, VIEWS OF USDEL AND EMBASSY ROME DESIRED AS TO WHETHER THEY SHOULD BE, IN CONFIDENTIAL

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THE LIGHT OF REF A.

3. REF A IS NOT CLEAR WHETHER INDELICATO HAS INFORMED BELGIANS OF ITALIAN NOMINATION OF REITANO AND WHETHER BELGIUM IS PREPARED TO SUPPORT IT (GIVEN THAT BELGIAN DEL WAS OUT OT TOWN). IN VIEW OF BELGIAN PIQUE AT LAST CHANGE OF CHAIRMANSHIP IN 1974 AND BELGIAN STATEMENT AT

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THAT TIME THAT THEY WOULD AGAIN PROPOSE CANDIDATE FOR
CHAIRMANSHIP WE WOULD NOT WISH FURTHER ALIENATE BELGIANS

BY INDICATING SUPPORT FOR REITANO.

4. EMBASSY ROME AND USDEL REQUESTED REPORT RESULTS OF
THEIR INQUIRIES ON THESE QUESTIONS. CHRISTOPHER

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